

this 105th Congress, and I am open to working with all interested Members, Democrat or Republican, to develop a bipartisan patient protection bill. In the meantime, Mr. Speaker, H.R. 586, the Patient's Right to Know Act, which has 299 cosponsors and would ban gag rules, should be brought to the floor for a vote.

□ 2045

Mr. Speaker, just last week a pediatrician told me about a 6-year-old child who had nearly drowned. The child was brought to the hospital and placed on a ventilator. The child's condition was serious. It did not appear that he would survive. As the doctors and the family prayed for signs that the boy would live, the hospital got a call from the boy's insurance company. Explained the HMO, "Home ventilation is cheaper than inpatient care. I was wondering if you had thought about sending the boy home."

Or consider the death of Joyce Ching, a 35-year-old mother from Fremont, California. Mrs. Ching waited nearly 3 months for an HMO referral to a specialist, despite continued rectal bleeding and severe pain. Joyce Ching was 35 years old when she died from a delay in diagnosis of her colon cancer. Joyce Ching, Christy DeMeurers, Michelina Baumann, Dr. Peeno's patient, Mr. Speaker, these are not just "anecdotes." These are real people who are victims of HMOs. Let us fix the problem. The people we serve are demanding it.

To paraphrase Shakespeare: Hath not these "anecdotes," these HMO victims' eyes? Hath not these "anecdotes" hands, organs, dimensions, senses, affections, passions, fed with the same food, hurt with the same weapons, subject to the same diseases, warmed and cooled by the same winter and summer as these same HMO apologists? If you prick the "anecdotes," do they not bleed? If you tickle these "anecdotes," do they not laugh? If you shortcut their care for profits, do they not die? And for those who dismiss them as "anecdotes," will they not revenge?

Mr. Speaker, let us act now to pass meaningful patient protections. Lives are in the balance.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2400, BUILDING EFFICIENT SURFACE TRANSPORTATION AND EQUITY ACT OF 1997

Mr. MCINNIS, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report

(Rept. No. 105-476) on the resolution (H. Res. 405) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2400) to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

MAKING IN ORDER ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1, 1998, MOTION TO SUSPEND THE RULES AND PASS H.R. 1151, CREDIT UNION MEMBERSHIP ACCESS ACT

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that, notwithstanding clause 1 of rule XXVII, it be in order at any time on Wednesday, April 1st, 1998, for the Speaker to entertain a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1151, Credit Union Membership Access Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Colorado?

There was no objection.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. GREENWOOD (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for after 5:00 p.m. today on account of official business.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. CLEMENT) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. MASCARA, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. BROWN of Florida, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Member (at the request of Mr. DOOLITTLE) to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. HOEKSTRA, for 5 minutes each day, today and on April 1st.

(The following Member (at his own request) to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. SAXTON for 5 minutes today.

(The following Member (at her own request) to revise and extend her re-

marks and include extraneous material:)

Mrs. KENNELLY of Connecticut, for 5 minutes, today.

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

By unanimous consent, permission to revise and extend remarks was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. CLEMENT) and to include extraneous matter:)

Mr. KIND.

Mr. MCDERMOTT.

Mr. STARK.

Mr. FILNER.

Mr. CRAMER.

Mr. BENTSEN.

Mr. LAFALCE.

Mr. ALLEN.

Mr. MOAKLEY.

Mr. VENTO.

Mr. KANJORSKI.

Mr. SCHUMER.

Mr. WYNN.

Mr. RUSH.

Mr. SABO.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. DOOLITTLE) and to include extraneous matter:)

Mrs. ROUKEMA.

Mr. GILMAN.

Mr. REDMOND.

Mr. WOLF.

Mr. SOLOMON.

Mr. GEKAS.

Mr. KLUG.

SENATE BILL REFERRED

A bill of the Senate of the following title was taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 1751. An act to extend the deadline for submission of a report by the Commission to Assess the Organization of the Federal Government to Combat the Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction; to the Committee on International Relations, and in addition, to the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 8 o'clock and 50 minutes p.m.) the House adjourned until Wednesday, April 1, 1998, at 10 a.m.

EXPENDITURE REPORTS CONCERNING OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL

Reports and amended reports concerning the foreign currencies and U.S. dollars utilized for official foreign travel during the second quarter of 1997 and the first quarter of 1998 by various Committees of the House of Representatives, pursuant to Public Law 95-384, as well as consolidated report of foreign currencies and U.S. dollars utilized for Speaker-authorized official travel in the first quarter of 1998 are as follows: